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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Rural District of South Molton

FOR THE YEAR

1970

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RURAL DISTRICT OF SOUTH MOLTON

Telephone No.

South Molton 2117

Public Health Department

8 East Street,

South Molton

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

L.W. EVES

Chief Public Health Inspector

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the South Molton Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District of South Molton for the year 1970.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

E. WILLIAMS

STAFF

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of:

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

L.W. EVES, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector

D.J. BYRON, M.A.P.H.I.,

J.M.W. RANDS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,
Additional Public Health Inspectors

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	117,432
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	11,070
Extracts from Vital Statistics:-	
Births: Comparability Factor	1.19
Deaths	0.81

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:-	
Number	134
Rate per 1000 population	12.1
Rate per 1000 population, adjusted by Comp. Factor	14.4
Illigitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	3%
Still Births:-	
Number	1
Rate per 1000 Total Live and Still Births	7

Total Live and Still Births	135
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	2
Infant Mortality Rates:-	
Total Infant Deaths per 1000 Total Live Births	15
Legit Infant Deaths per 1000 Legit Live Births	15
Illegit Infant Deaths per 1000 Illegit Live Births	Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 Total Live Births)	15
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1000 Total Live Births)	15
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week combined, per 1000 Total Live and Still Births)	22
Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)	
Number of Deaths	0
Rate per 1000 Total Live and Still Birth Deaths	160
Death Rate per 1000 population	14.5
Death Rate per 1000 population adjusted by Comp. Factor	11.7

POPULATION FIGURES SINCE 1950

	Population	Live Births	Deaths
1950	9038	161	100
1955	9030	115	95
1960	8780	114	111
1961	8220	126	98
1962	8400	135	93
1963	8410	116	93
1964	8430	124	94
1965	8430	132	100
1966	8410	129	92
1967	11350	162	162
1968	11310	161	158
1969	11210	127	173
1970	11070	134	160

BIRTHS

During the year there were 134 live births in the Rural Area as compared with 127 in 1969. There were 62 males and 72 female births.

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	60	70	130
Illegitimate	2	2	4
			134

STILL BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	0	1	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
			1

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Total Live and Still Births

DEATHS

During the year there were 160 deaths, of which 85 were males and 75 females.

The following table gives the Causes of Death:

	M.	F.	Total
Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc.	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	3	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	-	2
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	4	7
Diabetes Mellitus	1	4	5
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	2	3
Hypertensive Disease	3	2	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	18	13	31
Other Forms of Heart Disease	13	5	18
Cerebrovascular Disease	11	15	26
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	3	4
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	1	7
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2	3
Peptic Ulcer	2	-	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	2	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	3	5
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	1	2
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1	1	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	1	-	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	3
All other Accidents	2	1	3
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	-	1
	85	75	160

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS:

Under 4 weeks	2	35 - 44 years	2
4 weeks - 1 year	0	45 - 54 years	6
1 - 4 years	1	55 - 64 years	25
5 - 14 years	1	65 - 74 years	41
15 - 24 years	0	75 +	82
25 - 34 years	0		

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

During the year two infants died under the age of 1 year giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 15.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No deaths were attributable to childbirth during the year.

CANCER DEATHS

There were 26 deaths due to Cancer during the year. There were 3 deaths due to lung cancer.

	M.	F.	Total
Buccal Cavity	1	1	2
Oesophagus	0	1	1
Intestine	1	3	4
Stomach Cancer	2	1	3
Lung and Bronchus Cancer	3	0	3
Breast	0	2	2
Uterus	0	0	0
Other Cancers	3	4	7
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Prostate	2	0	2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (SECTION 47)

No cases were dealt with under this Act during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 29 infectious disease notifications were received of which 26 were measles. There were 2 cases of Infective Hepatitis and one food poisoning case; this latter being a staphylococcal infection and occurred following consumption of a reheated chicken.

No Tuberculosis notifications were received during the year. There occurred one Brucella Abortus infection - this was a farmer's son. The infection probably arose as a direct infection from an infected animal and not through consumption of infected milk. This disease is not notifiable but was brought to my attention by a General Practitioner.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

TUBERCULOSIS

The Mass X-Ray Unit visits Tuly Street, Barnstaple, on

alternate Wednesday evenings and its service is available to t general public between the hours of 4.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

GENERAL HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The South Molton and District Cottage Hospital, situated in South Molton, serves the town and the surrounding district.

The North Devon Infirmary, at Barnstaple, also serves the area, and provides Specialists' services.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases are sent either to Whipton Hospital, near Exeter, or to the Kingsley Hospital, Bideford. There are 18 beds available for treatment of infectious diseases.

SMALLPOX

All smallpox cases will be sent to Liskeard Smallpox Hospital. Plymouth Ambulance Service will provide transport; telephone No. plymouth 64101.

CHEST CLINICS

These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple. Below is a table giving the days and times of attendance.

Tuesday	9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.)	Clinic and X-Ray
	2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.)	Examinations
Thursday	9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.)	
	2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.)	
Friday	9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.)	A.P. Refills
	2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.)	

V.D. CLINICS

These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple. Times and days are as below for the sessions:

Females	Monday 4.00 p.m.	Thursday 4.30 p.m.
Males	Monday 5.15 p.m.	Thursday 5.45 p.m.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOMES

There is 1 District Nurse and 4 District Nurse/Midwives in the area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The main laboratory is situated at Church Lane, Heavitree, Exeter. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Bacteriological examination of water and milk are also carried out there. The service is extremely valuable, and is widely used by the medical practitioners.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon area. There is a Blood Bank at this Laboratory.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER CLINIC

The following clinics are held at the Devon County Council Health Centre at East Street, South Molton.

Ante Natal Clinic	Wednesday	By Appointment
Child Health	Thursday	2.00 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Relaxation and Mother Craft	2nd & 4th Tuesdays	2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Vaccination and Immunisation		By Appointment
Chiropody	Every Monday	9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.
	3rd 4th & 5th Wednesday	2.00 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Ophthalmic		By Appointment
Speech Therapy	All day alternate Fridays	
Dental	2nd & 4th Thursdays	
Family Planning	4th Friday in the Month	
Cervical Cytology		By Appointment

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association.

Under the scheme, an ambulance station has been established at South Molton. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available on application to the hospital, by the doctor concerned, and the ambulance service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when an ambulance is not necessary.

JUNIOR TRAINING CENTRE - ABBEYFIELD, BARNSTAPLE

This centre provides training facilities for mentally

handicapped children between the ages of 5 and 16. Hostel accommodation is also provided for children who may live some distance away from the centre.

ADULT TRAINING CENTRE

A new adult training centre for the North Devon area was opened in 1966 for the training of handicapped adults. This centre also has hostel accommodation.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Within South Molton the Womens' Voluntary Service distribute 36 meals twice a week to the elderly. In the Rural District Area the W.V.S. collect and distribute approximately 15 meals twice a week to the elderly in North Molton. The meals are prepared and cooked at a cafe in South Molton.

Four meals are distributed twice a week at East Worlington. Twelve meals are distributed twice a week at Chulmleigh. For East Worlington and Chulmleigh the meals are prepared at the local School Canteens. During school holidays the members of the W.V.S. themselves prepare the meals.

A Meals on Wheels Service for Bishopsnympton is now under consideration.

E. WILLIAMS
Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR
TO THE SOUTH MOLTON RURAL AREA

For the year ended 31st December, 1970

8 East Street,
South Molton.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report relating to work carried out during 1970.

During the year 4450 visits and inspections were made including:-

Public Health	
Building Regulations	702
Caravans and Camping Sites	38
Disinfections and Disinfestations	-
Drains Inspected and Tested	185
General	54
Infectious Disease	-
Nuisances	61
Refuse Collection and Disposal	28
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	180
Water Supplies	117
Water Samples	43
Town and Country Planning Acts	172
Food and Drugs - General	31
Meat and Food Inspection (excluding poultry)	304
Poultry Inspection	208
Factories - With Power	7
Without Power	2
Housing - Slum Clearance, Housing Acts, Rent Act	88
Council Houses in course of erection, Housing Sites, and Council Houses, supervision etc.	1241
Improvement Grants	226
Petroleum Regulations	36
Interviews - Owners, Builders etc.	424
Public Conveniences	17
Waste Foods	1

Miscellaneous	138
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	62
Swimming Baths	85
	4450

WATER

	No. of Houses Supplied from Public Mains	Estimated Populations so served	No. of Houses Supplied by Stand-Pipe on Public mains	Estimated Population so Served
Anstey East	32	83	-	-
Anstey West	34	62	1	2
Bishopsnympton	170	398	1	-
Buckland East	16	30	-	-
Buckland West	58	168	-	-
Burrington	66	208	-	-
Charles (Brayford)	43	127	-	-
Chittlehamholt	54	161	-	-
Chittlehampton	192	689	-	-
Cheldon	1	4	-	-
Chulmleigh	362	930	2	8
Creacombe	3	6	-	-
Filleigh	55	150	-	-
Georgenympton	38	118	-	-
Kingsnympton	82	223	1	3
Knowstone	35	97	-	-
Mariansleigh	58	140	-	-
Meshaw	34	87	-	-
Molland	3	3	-	-
North Molton	258	749	3	8
Queensnympton	4	14	-	-
Rackenford	65	180	-	-
Romansleigh	22	73	-	-
Rose Ash	58	154	-	-
Satterleigh & Warkleigh	24	61	-	-
South Molton	1184	2915	-	-
Witheridge	249	700	-	13
Worlington East	70	245	-	-

38 Samples of Private Supplies were taken with the results as shows:

	Chemical	Bacteriological
Satisfactory	-	20
Unsatisfactory	-	18

5 Bacteriological Samples of Public Supplies were taken and reported as satisfactory.

Where the private Water Supplies were found to be unsatisfactory informal action was taken to have the matter remedied or an alternative source found, in many cases, in conjunction with the Drainage and Water Supplies Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Ministry approval has been given for the Council to invite tenders for the Romansleigh Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme and the Consulting Engineers are preparing the documents to enable this to be done.

Following a visit by an Engineering Inspector in November, 1969, it was decided to amend the proposals for a sewage works at Burrington, andto make provision for a Pasveer ditch for treatment of the sewage in lieu of tanks and a filter. The Consulting Engineers were instructed accordingly.

Investigation of serious surface water infiltration into the sewer at Chittlehampton was traced to a fractured pipe where the sewer passes under a stream, and the necessary repairs were carried out.

North Molton Sewage Works is overloaded and obsolete and the Council have therefore instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme for an entirely new works. Plans have been prepared for a sewerage scheme for Brayford and the necessary approvals are being sought. At Bishopsnympton surface water entering the head of the sewer is aggravating conditions at the disposal works. The Surveyor has prepared a scheme to exclude this surface water.

Trade effluent from the poultry killing and processing premises and the slaughterhouse at Chulmleigh probably caused unsatisfactory effluent samples. A pebble clarifier was installed in the humus tank resulting in marked improvement in the effluent, bringing it well within the Royal Commission standard.

The preparation of a new scheme for Witheridge is still awaited from the Consulting Engineers.

HOUSING

During the year 35 houses were improved under the Standard Grant Scheme and 13 under the Discretionary

Grant Scheme. 80 Council houses were erected during the year and 14 were under construction. Tenders were accepted at the end of the year for a further 34 Council houses.

23 private houses were erected during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS

(a) The number of food premises in this area, by type of business is:

Bakeh uses	8
Butchers' Shops	12
Cafes and Restaurants	5
Confectioners	11
Fish and Chip Shops	2
Fishmongers	1
Greengrocers	5
Greengrocers and Provision Dealers	34
Guest Houses	8
Public Houses, Hotels	36
Dairies	2

(b) Twenty premises are registered for the manufacture or preparation of preserved food.

Fifty-eight premises are registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream.

Five premises are registered as dairies.

(c) All condemned food is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip under supervision.

(d) Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

Forty-one inspections were made to food premises Improvements and compliance with the regulations were secured.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Two licensed slaughterhouses contirued in regular use throughout the year. Messrs Warrens' Slaughterhouse at 111 East Street, South Molton closed on the 4th August, 1970. All three were maintained in a satisfactory condition and all animals killed were inspected. It was necessary to condemn 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 5 lbs. of carcase meat and 3 cwt. 5 qrs. 1 lb. of offal.

POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES

Visits were made as necessary to the two poultry processing

premises where some 500,000 hens are slaughtered. It was necessary to reject 2,906 birds (7,615 lbs.) 2 tons 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

DAIRIES

The dairies within the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961

One case of insufficient or unsuitable sanitary conveniences was remedied, following informal action by the department.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Number On Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number Of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	-	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	49	10	-	-
(111) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	7	2	-	-
TOTAL	63	12	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Section 1 - 4 Nil.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.6)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of Cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Sanitary Conveniences					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out Work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	1	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT (Out-Work)
Sections 133 & 134

(1) Nature of Work	(2) No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	(3) No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	(4) No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	(5) No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	(6) Notices served	(7) Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel Making etc.	5	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	-	-	-	-	-

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	289	Nil	802	734	Nil
Number Inspected	289	Nil	802	734	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	-	-	-	-	-
Whole Carcases Condemned	-	-	3	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	-	17	43	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	4.3	-	1.4	3.2	-
Tuberculosis only whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	6	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	.1	-
Cysticerosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

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